

BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Minutes

October 20, 2020

2:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Virtual Meeting Notice

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings are held virtually during the declared public health emergency.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:

This meeting was available by Web

Board of Occupational Therapy - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m9b77c4fde33477cdb9456dd5be299903>

This meeting was available by Phone

Call In Number: 1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

Access Code: 473 153 723

BOOT Mission Statement:

"To provide oversight to licensed professionals and ensure the health and safety of citizens and visitors in the District of Columbia through provision of health care services."

BOARD MEMBERSHIP/OPEN SESSION ATTENDANCE: OCTOBER 2020

BOARD MEMBERS:		
	TRACEY ELLIS, VICE CHAIR	Present
	GILLIAN RAI, MEMBER	Present
	CHARLES BOND, RRT, MEMBER	Present
	ANTHONY ROBERSON CONSUMER MEMBER	Absent
STAFF:	AISHA NIXON—EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Present
	MAVIS AZARIAH— HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	LEONARD HOWARD-INVESTIGATOR	Present
	GREGORY SCURLOCK —COMPLIANCE OFFICER	Present
	AJAY GOHIL, ESQ – ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL	Present
Visitors	NONE	

OPEN SESSION MINUTES OCTOBER 20, 2020

	<p>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</p> <p>Meeting was called to order at 1.10 PM and a quorum was established.</p>	
OS-1020-01	<p><u>AGENDA ACCEPTANCE</u></p> <p>Dr. Gillian Rai made a motion to accept the October 20, 2020 Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Charles Bond.</p> <p>Ms. Tracey Ellis, Dr. Gillian Rai and Mr. Charles Bond voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1020-02	<p><u>CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:</u></p> <p>No report.</p>	
OS-1020-03	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Ms. Aisha Nixon thanked Board members for making time for the rescheduled meeting. She provided the Board with the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DC Health Operational Status: DC Health remains closed to the public and staff continues to work remotely. • HRLA is working on launching a new online application system for new applications including reinstatements and reactivations. This is anticipated to begin by the end of this year. • The realignment at the HRLA has led to the recruitment of a new Executive Director for the Allied Boards. The OT Board is still under Ms. Nixon purview and so is all the other staff members. • Licensure Census: The OT Board currently has 943 active licensees with the breakdown of 4 Dance Therapists, 37 Recreational Therapists, 67 Occupational Therapy Assistants and 829 Occupational Therapists. 	
OS-1020-04	<p><u>BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Mr. Ajay Gohil introduced himself to the Board as the interim attorney until further notice. He advised the Board of the current HORA updates and recommended the OT Board to start looking at their definition and scope of practice to see if it needs to be amended to reflect current trends nationally.</p>	
OS-1020-05	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u></p>	

	<p>Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the June 15, 2020 meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Mr. Charles Bond made a motion to approve the June 15, 2020 Open Session minutes. Seconded by Dr. Gillian Rai.</p> <p>Ms. Tracey Ellis, Dr. Gillian Rai and Mr. Charles Bond voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1020-06	<p><u>TELEHEALTH</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To review the current telehealth guidelines as it relates to scope of practice and supervision of students, interns, and occupational therapist assistants and determine whether and determine if to adopt as emergency and proposed rule-making.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> In March of 2020, The Mayor and Director of the Health Department issued a Telehealth Waiver for Health Care Professionals in good standing with another state or jurisdiction permission to provide telehealth services to residents residing in the District of Columbia due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic social distancing efforts of reducing the spread of the virus.</p> <p>During the June 2020 board meeting, the Board voted to have the attorney draft policy guidance on Tele-supervision and tele-practice for the OT Board. Senior leadership has requested that all policies that make changes to the current regulations be done through emergency/proposed rulemaking.</p> <p>The Board's possible options are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take out the in-person requirements entirely. • Not take out the in-person requirements but leave room for them to suspend the in-person requirement under certain circumstances (limiting emergency situations or allowing the Board to use their discretion). <p><u>Motion:</u> Dr. Gillian Rai made a motion for the Board to develop a policy</p>	

	<p>statement to amend language under their regulations to state direct supervision is hereby modified to permit real time, synchronous observation and communication between the supervisor and the supervisee through the use of appropriate real-time technology such face to face telecommunication or audiovisual telecommunication. Seconded by Mr. Charles Bond.</p> <p>Ms. Tracey Ellis, Dr. Gillian Rai and Mr. Charles Bond voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1020-07	<p><u>MOTION TO CLOSE OPEN SESSION</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant of the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will moved into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Dr. Gillian Rai made a motion to close the open session meeting. Seconded by Mr. Charles Bond.</p> <p>Ms. Tracey Ellis, Dr. Gillian Rai and Mr. Charles Bond voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1020-08	<p><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Dr. Gillian Rai made a motion to close the open session meeting.</p>	

	Seconded by Ms. Tracey Ellis. Ms. Tracey Ellis, Dr. Gillian Rai and Mr. Charles Bond voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.	
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The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2020.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.